

FREEZING OF RENTS IN CITY IS WEIGHED

Data on Increases Asked of
Evicted Families in Hunter
Area Sent to Capital

SUPERINTENDENTS TO STAY

Asked to Keep Their Posts
in Buildings Designed
for Waves and Spars

As the Office of Price Administration took cognizance of rent increases in the Bronx, a Navy Department spokesman announced yesterday that superintendents of thirteen apartment houses that will be converted into dormitories for Waves and Spars had been asked to remain on their jobs.

The Navy will investigate the

background of the superintendents, in line with department regulations. One superintendent, John C. Bummer, at 2766 University Avenue, who said he had served five years in the Navy, seemed pleased at the prospect of working again on a Navy project.

Following complaints from some of the 613 families, who will have to move to make room for the Navy and Coast Guard women who are to receive training at the nearby Hunter College branch, that owners of other buildings in the area were increasing rents of vacant apartments, the regional OPA disclosed that it had sent the facts in the case to Washington.

Although the New York rent area, which includes the five boroughs of this city and the counties of Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland and Westchester, was designated a defense rent area last April, New York remains the only large city in the country among those so designated where rents have not yet been frozen.

The Bronx situation, according to OPA officials here, will "help to round out the picture" on the basis of which Washington officials will

have to determine whether rents are to be frozen.

Questioned about the proposal of Bronx Borough President James J. Lyons that the Bronx be regarded as a special area, for rent control purposes, OPA officials said there was precedent for such action. In the Wilkes-Barre-Scranton area a single county defense rent area was singled out for rent freezing, they pointed out. Whether a step of that kind might be taken here depended on Washington, they said.

Meanwhile, the rent listing bureau set up by the city to help the Bronx families who have received eviction notices reported that new quarters had been found for fifteen additional families, bringing to sixty the number aided by the bureau.

Bureau officials said they were "coping successfully" with the attempts of some landlords within a two-mile radius of the thirteen buildings to raise rents. They are investigating a report by one woman who said she had paid a deposit on an apartment and when she went to close the deal yesterday the building superintendent asked for \$20 for himself.